

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Amendment of Part 97 of the	)	
Commission's Rules Regarding	)	WP Docket No. 10-72
Amateur Radio Service	)	
Communications During	)	
Government Disaster Drills	)	

**COMMENT**

I support this proposal for a very simple reason: *The value of a network increases as more connections are made.* This change will streamline the addition of new connections during disaster drills, and increase the value the network provides to the community.

These connections include private sector critical infrastructure, government agencies, hospitals, and relief organizations like the American Red Cross. In most cases, these organizations already have employees who are licensed amateur radio operators and would be eager to participate. With this change, those employees actually could. The organization benefits from an additional emergency communication option to fall back on that they would not otherwise have.

To provide a real story from the Pacific Northwest, on December 2 and 3, 2007, "a storm with winds exceeding 120 miles per hour struck Oregon and Washington, toppled trees, felled power lines, and destroyed homes and businesses." Shortly thereafter, with many power and phone lines still down, amateur radio operators were being honored in House Resolution 851 for the assistance provided. (<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:h.res.851>.)

Across America, there are stories like this. Amateur radio is a proven platform. Now we need to build on it. This proposal removes a barrier to adoption that many organizations face. Once they join, the value of the network we are building will increase, as will our level of preparedness.

Sincerely,

Eric Jarvi  
Sammamish, WA